

Message Text

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13

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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R 101716Z SEP 76

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1832

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

C O N F I D E N T I A L EC BRUSSELS 08853

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EAID, BE, EG

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S MESSAGE TO SOAMES RE EGYPT

REF: SECTO 22641

1. CLAUDE CHEYSSON, EUROPEAN COMMISSIONER RESPONSIBLE FOR DEVELOPMENT POLICY AND FOOD AID, TO WHOM SIR CHRISTOPHER SOAMES REFERRED SECRETARY'S LETTER (REFTEL), TOLD ME SEPTEMBER 10 THAT ITS RECEIPT HAD BEEN MOST HELPFUL AND TIMELY. COMMISSION WHICH, HE POINTED OUT, FOR SOME MATTERS HAS MORE FREEDOM OF ACTION AT EUROPEAN LEVEL THAN GOVERNMENTS AT NATIONAL LEVELS, HAD, IN ANY CASE, BEEN MOVING TOWARD INCREASE IN FOOD AID PROGRAM FOR EGYPT. DECISION HAS NOW BEEN MADE. HE HAD BEEN HELPED NOT ONLY BY SECRETARY'S LETTER BUT BY UNDECISION TO ADD EGYPT TO LIST OF MSA COUNTRIES. ALSO HELPFUL WAS FACT THAT HARVESTS IN BANGLADESH AND INDIA THIS YEAR ARE GOOD AND WHEREAS SOME SEVENTY PERCENT OF EUROPEAN FOOD AID NORMALLY GOES TO SOUTH ASIA, THIS YEAR RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE FOR APPLICATION ELSEWHERE. EGYPT WILL GET LARGE SHARE. IT WILL BE GRANT AID. HE SAID HE WAS NOT YET IN POSITION TO TELL ME EXACTLY HOW MUCH BUT AMOUNTS WOULD BE SUBSTANTIAL AND EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN SO INFORMED.

2. COMMENT: LOOKING AT EC 1976 FOOD AID ALLOCATIONS
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WHICH SHOW ONLY ABOUT 50 PERCENT (NOT 70 PERCENT) ALLOCATION

TO SOUTH ASIA, I.E., SOME 350,000 TONS OF GRAIN (ALSO NFDM) SUGGESTS
1977 ALLOCATION TO EGYPT MIGHT BE AROUND 100,000 TONS,
WORTH ABOUT \$17 MILLION. THIS WOULD BE FOUR-FOLD INCREASE
OVER 1976. HINTON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, FOOD ASSISTANCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ECBRU08853
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760343-0658
From: EC BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760974/aaaaclax.tel
Line Count: 65
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 76 SECTO 22641
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01 APR 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <11 AUG 2004 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SECRETARY'S MESSAGE TO SOAMES RE EGYPT
TAGS: PFOR, EAID, BE, EG, US, (CHEYSSON, CLAUDE), (KISSINGER, HENRY A)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006